works, public participation and awareness programmes etc. Since, GAP Phase-I did not cover the pollution load of the river fully, GAP Phase-II was approved in stages from 1993 onwards, including action plans for the tributaries namely, Yamuna, Gomti, Damodar and Mahananda. GAP Phase II was merged in 1996 with the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), which presently covers identified polluted stretches of 36 rivers in 165 towns spread over 20 States. During the last two years, 119 schemes have been completed with creation of sewage treatment capacity of 98.36 mld at a cost of Rs. 113.06 crores.

Prevention and control of forest fires

1042. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a moderate Forest Survey of India (FSI) estimate says that timber worth Rs. 35 crore is lost in fires in 63 million hectares of Indian forest everyday, apart from unaccounted damage to biodiversity;

(b) whether a Satellite-linked Fire Alert System developed by NASA is turning out to be an effective tool in saving wild-life and bio-diversity from forest fires apart from saving time; and

(c) if so, how this system builds database of fire locations which can be used to identify fire sensitive zones scientifically as well as plan fire control strategy in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Forest Survey of India (FSI) has not done any studies to assess damage in monetary terms to the forests due to fire.

(b) The Satellite-linked Fire Alert System is expected to control forest fire promptly but mechanism to analyses it's effectiveness in saving wildlife and biodiversity is not yet developed by Forest Survey of India.

(c) The geo — coordinates (latitude/longitude) of fire locations in forests (obtained through satellite) of various years shall form the data base. Forest Survey of India has already got this data of the last 4 years which can be used to identify fire sensitive zones which would help in formulating fire control strategy in India.

Non-arrival of migratory birds in Goa

1043. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether migratory birds reaching Goan lakes from eastern Europe and the Himalayas have failed to swoop over some of the lakes in Goa, this winter;

(b) if so, whether any reasons for the same have been identified;

(c) the names of the lakes in Goa where these birds have been swooping all these years; and